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A Buckley bash to laud the National Review at 30

By Kim Mills
Associated Press

NEW YORK — William F. Buckley Jr. invited 700 of his friends, including President Reagan and Charlton Heston, to share chicken potpie yesterday and celebrate the 30th anniversary of the National Review, the conservative magazine he founded.

The guest list included journalist Mike Wallace, CIA Director William J. Casey, actor Tom Selleck and former ambassador Clare Boothe Luce. Heston was to serve as master of ceremonies and Reagan was to give a 10-minute speech.

Musical entertainment at the Plaza Hotel was to range from jazz piano to Bach, Handel and Scarlatti played on the harpsichord — although not by Buckley, who is accomplished on the instrument. Guests paid \$300 per couple, or \$175 for the unattached.

Other speakers were to include Rep. Jack Kemp (R., N.Y.); William

Rusher, publisher of the National Review; conservative columnist George F. Will, and Priscilla Buckley, sister of the founder and the magazine's managing editor. She is retiring at year's end, said spokeswoman Dorothy McCartney.

William Buckley, who planned to be the final speaker, founded the National Review in 1955 with \$130,000 of his own money and private contributions.

Buckley, who has been described as "the Renaissance man of the Right," is host of public television's *Firing Line* and has written numerous books, including a series of spy novels. He served briefly in the CIA after graduating from Yale, but said he found it boring.

McCartney described the dinner's main course as "chicken potpie a la Pat and Mr. Alexander," and said it was a special recipe created by Buckley's wife, Pat, and S. Alexander, the Plaza's director of catering.